

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4832

C O N F I D E N T I A L 6354

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG USEGJC EAID EG

SUBJECT: TRAINING FOR MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM

REF: CAIRO 4382

1. DEPT WILL RECALL MINPET HILAL HAS SEVERAL TIMES PAST YEAR RAISED WITH VISITING USG OFFICIALS, NOTABLY TREASURY SECSIMON AND UNDERSEC ROBINSON, MATTER OF TRAINING FOR PETROLEUM SECTOR. ALTHOUGH TREASURY ASSTSEC PARSKY TOLK HIM LAST NOV THAT USG LACKED TRAINING FACILITIES TO DO SO AND SUGGESTED ASSISTANCE PRIVATE SECTOR BEST ABLE HELP, HILAL HAS NOT GIVEN UP ON HIS DESIRE FOR USG PARTICIPATION. HE AGAIN RAISED SUBJECT MOST RECENTLY DURING VISIT OF NSF DIRECTOR. WE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING HOW WE MIGHT HELP HILAL, ONE OF THE UPCOMING YOUNG MINISTERS.
2. AID TRAINING SPECIALIST ROSSITER IS CURRENTLY VISITING EGYPT IN CONNECTION WITH AID TRAINING GRANT. SHE HAD WITH HER TRAINING REQUESTS HILAL HAD GIVEN TO US EARLIER AND VERY HELPFULLY BROACHED POSSIBILITY WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME TRAINING UNDER AID GRANT.
3. ACCORDINGLY, EMBOFF AND ROSSITER MET JUNE 24 WITH MINPET HILAL AND HEADS OF TRAINING DEPARTMENTS OF BOTH PETMIN AND EGYPTIAN GENERAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE AID ASSISTANCE IN FULFILLING HILAL'S LONG STANDING REQUEST FOR USG TRAINING HELP. HILAL URGED THAT USG, THROUGH AID, ONCENTRATE
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ON TRAINING OF HIS PERSONNEL IN US ACADEMIC INSITUTIONS; HE

WOULD ATTEMPT TO INTEREST INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES OPERATING IN EGYPT IN INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAMS. (HE MENTIONED HE WILL SHORTLY BE SEEING MOBIL TRAINING EXPERT.) HILAL ALSO STATED PETMIN WILLING TO PAY FOR INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL PORTION OF COST OF SENDING TRAINEES TO US AS WELL AS CONTINUATION OF SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES SELECTED.

4. IN ORDER TO MAKE SOME POSITIVE MOVEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, WE SUGGESTED, AND HILAL AGREED, THAT MINISTRY WILL PROVIDE AID WITH PROPOSAL FOR 5 OR 10 PRIORITY TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS WHICH WE WILL MAKE EFFORT TO ARRANGE FOR FALL 1975 TERM.

5. HILAL WAS KEENLY APPRECIATIVE OF THIS USG RESPONSE. HE OBSERVED THAT, EVEN THOUGH HE HAD BEEN "FUSSING" ABOUT LACK OF RESPONSE TO HIS EARLIER REQUEST, HE HAD NEVER GIVEN UP HOPE AND WAS PLEASED TO SEE THAT HIS CONFIDENCE WAS NOT MISPLACED.

6. COMMENT: HILAL ATTEMPTED TO PUT A DOLLAR FIGURE ON POSSIBLE USG ASSISTANCE. EMBOFF AND ROSSITER DECLINED TO DO SO, EXPLAINING THAT WE HOPE TO BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO HIS REQUESTS AND PLACING A DOLLAR FIGURE WOULD ONLY COMPLICATE EFFORTS.
EILTS

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